# UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

DECEMBER
1917

The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

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AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

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# THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

## REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

ALL OF THESE SOCIETIES have their headquarters in the building of the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. The names of the principal officers of each society will be found on the first pages of the sections devoted to their respective organizations. The work and purpose of these societies may be stated in brief as follows:

### THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

THE ASSOCIATION was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity." In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

### THE ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

### THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

THE UNION was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

### THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

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# UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and Unitarian Temperance Society

Vol. 21 DECEMBER, 1917 No. 3

## EDITORIAL

HOW can anyone be of good cheer in war time? If there is nothing but weeping in Belgium how can anyone laugh in America? If the Armenians and the Syrians are maddened from the ravages of fire and sword how can those who live in quiet places and with ample food and clothing retain their sanity? If the populations of eastern Europe are starving how can a citizen of the United States eat good food and rejoice?

There are those who would so far "weep with those who weep" that it seems like "an offense to good manners and good morals" to harbor the thought of good cheer, and a breach of Christian sympathy to break even war bread together in the atmosphere of a happy fellowship. For such people the sufferings of others create habits of sorrow and mannerisms of woe. They exhibit an attempt to carry in their own souls an appreciation of the world's miseries and oftentimes they speak and act as if, neither by day nor night, is anyone entitled to a thought of pleasure or an experience of joy.

Supposing everyone here in America should thus take account of the proprieties of grief and misfortune? Supposing on Thanksgiving Day every family had gathered about an empty board and pondered the heart-breaking records of human cruelty and greed. Supposing that Christmas Day should be transformed into a day of fasting and prayer. Would such conduct bring peace and happiness any nearer to the warring nations of the world, or evolve in the breast of any individual an adequate realization of the agonies of mankind? Would it increase in the heart of a single American soldier a more effective sense of patriotic loyalty, or sweeten the cup of sacrifice for the tortured lips of a single martyr?

There are those who do not understand that the ultimate victory of the Allies depends as much upon the preservation of a sound and healthy psychology as upon the creation and support of strong battalions. If the people who have good reasons for thanksgiving and praise do not rejoice, and if those who have about them the resources of health and good cheer do not preserve the optimism which good health always implies, then indeed is this a lost world with a hopeless outlook.

Supposing on Christmas Day you were a boy in khaki, standing knee-deep in water in the trenches on the French firing line. Over the ridge there are scores of dead and dying comrades. Near you are all the frightful spectacles of active warfare — the sight of which would chill the heart of anyone not accustomed to its nameless horrors. Would it help you under such circumstances, when swift visions of your far-away homeland passed before your imagination, to know that all your loved ones were cultivating heavy hearts and "sad countenances?" If you were weak from hunger and exposure would you be

the stronger if you knew your loved ones had ceased, in sympathy for you, to meet together in goodly fellowship? If you heard only the bellowing of great guns and the singing, stinging, deadly hiss of shrapnel would it fortify your nerves to be assured that all your friends and relatives had suppressed all the old ballads and pledged themselves to a songless and gruesome sympathy for you?

Now, and in the days to come, the body-politic and the body-ecclesiastic of this nation must be sustained by an abundant faith. Hope and confidence and a cheerful trust in the final triumph of righteousness must make glad our hearts within us. Now, if ever, we must say as if we meant it, "make us glad according to the days wherein thou has afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil." Now, if ever, let wholesome amusements distract our troubled attention at intervals from the horrors of the daily papers. Let childhood laugh and frolic unconscious of the heavy burdens that crush the souls of their elders. Let old friends meet often and new friends be made apace. Let churches resound with the great music of the ages — the music which speaks of that which is as eternal as God and as inevitable as his glory. Let theatres assemble the deep and tender and thrilling experiences of human life and preserve our faith in the nobler qualities of our nature. Let our religious societies gather often in the spirit of a holy fellowship and kindle within their members the flames of mutual zeal and inspiration. By so doing no harm can come to those who languish on the fields of suffering and slaughter. By so doing, only, can we serve those who struggle for freedom and democracy, and preserve our capacity for service and our own souls in patience and health.

THE stay-at-home minister, as the months, or possibly years, of this war drag on, will find himself confronted by opportunities and duties, second only to those of the soldier in the trenches. As yet, we have not felt the terrible consequences of the struggle. The necessity of a little less sugar, or a few meatless days each week, are but the faintest premonitions of what is likely to come about. Our soldiers are only beginning to see real service. It will not be many months before thousands of Americans will read the long rolls of the dead and wounded in each edition of the daily papers. Returning soldiers, with maimed and weakened bodies will be seen in our midst. Food and clothing and medical assistance, such as yet we have not experienced, will be required. Families will be broken, discontent and impatience and moral cowardice and flagging patriotism will offer to the preachers and pastors of the country a field of service such as they have never known. It will be for them to preserve the sanity and loyalty of the nations at large and the faith and hope of the communities where they reside. It will be a work for strong hearts, willing hands, brave souls. Those who, in the spirit of scorn and criticism have been in the habit of thinking of exemption as applied to ministers, may well ponder the following words, taken from the bulletin of the Unitarian Church in Portland, Oregon: —

"Several of our ministers, with highest possible motive have protested against the provision of the selective draft which exempted them and all ministers of religion from compulsory service. They have felt that such an exemption implied a false distinction and tended to bring their calling into contempt, that it was a slur upon the virility of ministers, a reproach of their courage and patriotism.

"This feeling would be clearly and fully justified if the law prevented all ministers from volunteering in military service. This the law, of course, does not do, and so therefore the only basis for protest would obtain if the draft exemption had been conceived in a perfunctory and ill-considered and unjust belief that ministers must be treated as a coddled class.

"But the fact is that ministers are exempted for none of the wrong reasons above suggested. The selective draft law received the careful attention of President and Cabinet and probably

many expert advisers. Their exemption of ministers from compulsory service was not an oversight, but a statesmanlike realization that *the Church and its ministry are absolutely indispensable in times of national crisis and stress*. The Government authorities showed true statesmanship in providing against any diminution of those forces that can be relied upon to sustain the morale of civilian and soldier. The organized forces of religion are indispensable for the patriotic inspiration of the people, for prophetic word and will against the trials and duties of the present and the future, for the restraint of hysteria and for the abatement of the selfish and malignant reactions incident to war, and for those necessary conditions prerequisite to any permanent peace to come when victory shall have blessed our strivings. Moreover, as practical working units the churches all over the land have been indispensable in all endeavors attendant upon Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Food Conservation and Liberty Loans."

THE first Reunion of Life Members of the American Unitarian Association, held in Boston last January, was a most inspiring and significant occasion. It was inspiring because of the addresses by Dr. Charles W. Eliot, Rev. William L. Sullivan and Dr. Samuel M. Crothers, and it was significant because it was the first annual gathering of hundreds of those who have committed themselves to the loyalties of a free faith. There are other hundreds who should join this membership. In times like these when the fortunes of churches and denominations are problematical and the future of religious institutions is so uncertain, it is especially fitting that the individual supporters of a truth-loving and democratic fellowship should be enrolled in an organization that can propagate the principles for which they stand.

By thus coming together in a body and contemplating the great opportunities and blessings of a free church as they are set forth by able speakers, each member is better able to give an adequate account of the faith that is in him. The work we are now doing (especially during this trying period of the war) is not second to the work of any Christian body. The quiet, substantial and patient attitude of Unitarians is hardly appreciated by Unitarians themselves. We need to get together often and in large numbers in order that our belief in ourselves may be fortified by clear statements of the high purposes that we hold in common. We are one division in a vast army going forth to rescue all that we hold sacred, from the hands of the despoiler. To accomplish results we need to dispel all vagueness from our vision and all indifference from our hearts. This fellowship of ours is a fellowship of the spirit and everyone who possesses the right spirit should join with all the others to make effective the ideals that invite us to great achievement.

Largely as a result of our Reunion last year more than a hundred new Life Members were enrolled. It would be a source of unqualified rejoicing if, between now and our next Reunion (which will be held on January 17, 1918), many more names could be added to the roll.

Already one person has set a good example in becoming a Life Member by turning over a Fifty Dollar Liberty Bond as payment. Thus a three-fold service was rendered, — one to her country, one to the church she believed in and one to herself. What better patriotic and religious economy could anyone imagine! L. G. W.

# American Unitarian Association

**Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston**

Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D. D., *President* — Henry M. Williams, *Treasurer*
Rev. Louis C. Cornish, *Secretary* — W. Forbes Robertson, *Assistant Secretary*

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**Personals**

Rev. William I. Nichols died at his home at Hingham on November 3, after a long and honorable career as a minister in our churches and as Secretary of the Bureau of Charities in Brooklyn.

Rev. Newton B. Knapp has accepted a call to Davenport, Iowa.

Rev. Edgar N. Burke, who graduated last summer from the Pacific School of the Ministry, has accepted a call to Salem, Oregon.

Rev. Joseph A. Kyle has become Associate Minister of Unity Church, Brooklyn.

Rev. G. R. Gebauer has resigned at Duluth, Minn., and Rev. W. D. Simonds at Oakland, Cal.

Rev. C. F. Niles was installed at Paterson, N. J., on November 18.

Rev. A. T. Bowser has taken charge for six months of the church at Hyde Park, Mass.

Three ministers have accepted commissions in the overseas service of the Y. M. C. A. and will sail at once. These are Rev. T. D. Bacon of Salem, Rev. E. H. Cotton of Danvers and Rev. O. B. Hawes of Newton.

Rev. Albert Lévitt has received a commission as chaplain in the army. He is assigned to the 302d Regiment at Camp Devens.

Rev. J. A. C. Fagginger Auer has accepted a call to Ithaca, N. Y.

Rev. H. N. Pfeiffer has taken charge of the churches at Long Beach and Santa Ana, Cal.

Rev. W. A. Marzolf has taken charge of Christ Church, Dorchester.

Rev. A. H. Robinson has resigned at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mrs. C. C. Helvie, who graduated in September at Meadville, has accepted a call to Wheeling, W. Va.

Rev. F. A. Weil was installed at Denver, Col., on October 28.

**Journeys**

Field Secretaries Nobbs and Brown have completed the journeys announced in the last number of Word and Work. Mr. Nobbs has visited Nashville and Chattanooga, Tenn., Atlanta, Ga., Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando and St. Petersburg, Florida, Charleston, S. C., and the Camps at Columbia, S. C. Mr. Brown has made an even longer swing with appointments at Pittsburgh, Pa., Wheeling, W. Va., Memphis, Tenn., Little Rock, Ark., Oklahoma City, Okla., Colorado Springs and Denver, Colo., Salt Lake City, Utah, Butte, Helena, and Red Lodge, Mont., Bismarck, N. D., Pierre, S. D., St. Paul, Minn., and Chicago, Ill. He has strengthened the churches along this route and has also served as a representative of the National Security League and has taken counsel at each of the State Capitols with the State Councils of Defense. He has also visited the Training Camps at Little Rock, Ark., and Fort Snelling, Minn.

Field Secretary Gilmore has, during the past month, conducted the work of the New York office and kept preaching and speaking appointments at Wilmington, Del., Albany, Schenectady, Yonkers and Ithaca, N. Y., Passaic, Paterson and Elizabeth, N. J., and Ottawa, Can.

Two Billings lecturers have completed their journeys, Mr. McDougall visiting Atlanta, Ga., Birmingham, Ala., and Dayton, Ohio, and Mr. Boynton of Buffalo visiting Toledo, Ohio, Chicago, Ill., Menominee, Wis., St. Paul, Minn., and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Field Secretary Murdock, having completed in October a journey to all the churches in Oregon and Washington, has just returned to San Francisco from a trip in Southern California, visiting the churches at Fresno, Los Angeles, Santa Ana and Long Beach.

Rev. Ralph E. Conner has gone South and will for the present have charge of the church at Atlanta and act as volunteer chaplain at Camp Gordon.

Rev. Earl M. Wilbur leaves this month for the Southwest, with appointments at Knoxville and Memphis, Tenn., Dallas and San Antonio, Texas, and Deming, N. Mexico, where he will serve as volunteer chaplain at Camp Cody, and then on to Southern California and back to his home in Berkeley.

The next journeys will be undertaken by Rev. N. J. Springer, Secretary of the Young People's Religious Union, in the Middle West and later by Rev. Maxwell Savage of Lynn in the South.

**Buildings**

On November 5 a beautiful memorial doorway of appropriate design was dedicated in the First Church in Boston. It is the gift of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts in honor of Governor Thomas Hutchinson.

On November 11 the First Parish in Brookline dedicated, as part of the Two Hundredth Anniversary, near the Church a Tablet in memory of its late minister, Rev. William H. Lyon, D. D.

Work is rapidly going forward on the improvements in the church at Ayer, Mass.

Sketches have been made and favorably considered for the proposed new churches at Holyoke, Mass., and Youngstown, Ohio, but the letting of the contracts may have to await more auspicious times.

The Boylston Avenue Church at Seattle has acquired a convenient Parsonage.

The corner stone of the new church at Omaha, Neb., has been laid by Hon. William H. Taft.

**Worcester Mission Week**

During the week beginning December 2, a special Mission Week will be held in the Church of the Unity on Elm Street in Worcester, Mass. Dr. Eliot preaches at the morning service on Sunday, December 2, and Dr. Crothers will be the speaker at an evening rally of the Unitarian churches of Worcester and the neighborhood. On the four succeeding evenings there will be meetings led by Dr. Sullivan of New York. Mr. Powell of Braintree will lead the meeting on Friday evening and Sunday evening, December 9, and Dr. Wilbur will be the preacher on that Sunday morning. If these meetings can be adequately brought to the attention of Worcester and the neighboring communities they ought to deepen and enlarge the life of the churches.

**Department of Comity and Fellowship**

The National Federation of Religious Liberals has just held its eighth convention in Boston. The meetings were held in the Arlington Street Church, Central Congregational Church, the Church of the New Jerusalem, and Channing Hall in the Unitarian Building. The convention sermon was preached by Dr. Rufus M. Jones of Haverford College, and among the other speakers were Dr. Charles W. Eliot, Professor Daniel Evans, Professor J. H. Holmes of Swarthmore, Rabbi Harry Levi, Professor Carver of Harvard, and Dr. Perkins of Lynn. The purpose of the Federation is "to promote religious life by uniting testimony for sincerity, freedom and progress in religion, by social service and the fellowship of the spirit beyond the lines of sect and creed." The vitality and growing usefulness of the Federation is one of the signs of the times.

**Directors' Meeting**

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association on November 13, primary consideration was given to the urgent need of recruiting the ministry and it was voted to create a standing committee of the Board to act in cooperation with the Divinity Schools in this work. It is hoped that this will launch a cooperative movement which will help at least to solve the most serious problem confronting our churches. It was further voted to create a War Work Council to

act with the President and the Secretary of the Department of Community Service in connection with all matters relating to the war work of the churches. The Treasurer announced the receipt of the Sarah Preston Fund of $18,000 and votes were passed authorizing the payment of the income to the beneficiaries under the will of Sarah Preston. The Association does not profit by this endowment, but acts simply as trustee. Mr. Simons of Cleveland and Mr. Savage of Lynn were appointed lecturers on the Billings Foundation. The Red Triangle Work of the Y. M. C. A. was heartily endorsed. Further communications from Dr. MacCauley, the representative of the Association in Japan, were laid before the Board and the Finance Committee was given full power to proceed in the organization of the corporation which is hereafter to hold the property in Tokyo. The Publication Committee reported its intention to print certain new tracts, and various small appropriations were made from the New England Budget. Arrangements were made for the holding of the Second Annual Meeting of the Life Members on January 17.

**Camp Devens Fund**

Attention has been called in WORD AND WORK to the opportunity of service afforded by the special conditions at Camp Devens and the neighboring town of Ayer, Mass. The New England Missionary Council is eager to take advantage of this opportunity. It has sent out an appeal for $15,000. This money is to be used first to pay the expenses of the volunteer chaplains who care for our Unitarian young men at Camp Devens. These chaplains are resident at the Camp, enjoying the hospitality of Y. M. C. A. Hut 27. Then there is a parish worker living at the Girls' Club in Ayer and working in the community, particularly with the young women. Then there is the work conducted in the Hut of the Christian Federation of Ayer, a union of five churches of the community to serve the soldiers and the new community that is growing between the Camp and the town. Lastly, there is the rehabilitation of the Unitarian church in Ayer, so as to make it a more attractive and convenient centre for the soldiers. All these things are going forward. Some $6,000 has been subscribed. There is urgent need that the balance of the needed $15,000 be contributed at once. The readers of WORD AND WORK are urged to send their checks to the treasurer of the Fund, Mr. Charles B. Wiggin, 25 Beacon Street, Boston.

**War Work Council.**

The War Work Council of the Association has commissioned a number of ministers of our fellowship to serve as volunteer chaplains in the various Camps, Cantonments, Forts, and Navy Yards in the country. These gatherings of the young men of the nation offer at this time a supreme opportunity for the heralds of patriotism and spiritual optimism. The volunteer chaplain makes his headquarters in a Y. M. C. A. building designated by the Camp secretary and he works in close cooperation with the post chaplains and the Y. M. C. A. workers. He is also at pains to search out the Unitarian and Universalist officers and men and to put himself into personal relations with them. He further interests himself in all the efforts taken by the military authorities and other agencies for the safeguarding of the health and moral welfare of the men, seeks to provide wholesome recreational opportunities and as far as possible to secure for the men the privileges of private or club hospitality. He acts as the distributer of literature and of the pamphlets of the Army and Navy Series. He finds special opportunity of service at the Base Hospitals and, as opportunity presents itself, conducts religious services for the Unitarians and other liberals.

The parishes served by the ministers given these commissions have been generous in granting the necessary leave

of absence, though except when there are religious services at the Camps absence from the home pulpit on Sundays is not necessary or usual. Two parishes have declined to grant the leave of absence to their ministers and two ministers have declined to accept the commission of the Council on the ground of pressure of other occupations. The following ministers have received commissions for work in the Cantonments of the National Army:

Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.,
Rev. E. C. Davis
Rev. F. B. Crandall
Rev. A. P. Reccord
Camp Upton, Yaphank, N. Y.
Rev. C. F. Niles
Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J.
Rev. E. A. Reeman
Camp Meade, Annapolis Junc., Md.
Rev. C. A. Wing
Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.
Rev. F. W. Pratt
Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.,
Rev. C. M. Gray
Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga.,
Rev. R. E. Conner
Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, O.,
Rev. E. A. Coil
Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky.,
Rev. D. R. Lupton
Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.,
Rev. Wm. Yerington
Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Ia.,
Rev. C. W. Reese
Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kan.,
Rev. L. M. Birkhead
Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark.,
Rev. W. C. Brown
Camp Travis, San Antonio, Texas,
Rev. G. H. Badger
Camp Lewis, American Lake, Wash.,
Rev. J. D. O. Powers

The Naval Stations and Training Camps at Boston, Hingham, New London, Norfolk, Puget Sound and San Francisco are to be cared for by Rev. S. C. Beane, Jr.; Rev. G. B. Spurr, Rev. W. S. Swisher, Rev. A. T. Brown; Rev. J. C. Perkins and Rev. C. Reed. Messrs. Pierce, Wicks and Dutton care for the interests of the Training Camps at Fort Myer, Va.; Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.; and at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal. Dr. Crothers cares for the men of the Aviation and Radio Schools at Cambridge, Mass., and Mr. Evans for the men at Camp Wright, Dayton, O. The National Guard Camps are chiefly in the South and can be visited only by travelling chaplains. Provision has been made, however, that all these Camps shall be visited and in some cases it is possible for the volunteer chaplains to go into residence as in the National Army Cantonments. Among the ministers who have accepted commissions to visit the National Guard Camps are Rev. W. R. Hunt, Rev. C. F. Patterson, Rev. C. A. Place, Rev. T. P. Byrnes, Rev. Minot Simons, Rev. Maxwell Savage, Rev. Thomas Clayton, Rev. George Gilmour, Rev. Otto Helsing, Rev. E. M. Wilbur, and Rev. H. B. Bard.

As an illustration of this kind of work take what is being done at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass. Mr. Crandall, minister of the Unitarian Church in Ayer, is on duty all the time and conducts special services for the men in his own church. Rev. E. C. Davis of Pittsfield was in residence at Building 27 for the last two weeks in November and Rev. A. P. Reccord of Springfield is now at work there. On Sunday, November 25th, the services in the big auditorium were conducted by Dr. Eliot and on the same day Chaplain Lévitt of the 302nd Field Artillery had the morning service in Building 21. On the succeeding Sunday Mr. Davis has the morning service in Building 21. Camp Devens being a New England Cantonment has probably the largest number of Unitarians among the officers and men. The Y. M. C. A. has completed the denominational census of the men so that the chaplains are able to follow up all who claim any connection with a liberal church and to give them the fellowship and encouragement that they sometimes need.

**Department of Community Service**

During October the Secretary of the Department was attending conventions and visiting churches in the Middle West. In the first week he attended the Congress of Commissions of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ held in Pittsburg. At this meeting some ten commissions made their reports on such subjects as Federations, Religious Education, Evangelism, Social Service, International Relations, etc. While the Unitarian denomination is not in fellowship with the Federal Council, Unitarian churches are members of the State and local federations in the East, and the Secretary went to Pittsburg as a delegate from the Massachusetts Federation of Churches.

Something over five hundred delegates were present, largely from the Middle West and the nearby South, although nearly every State in the Union was represented. The Secretary was received with the utmost courtesy, and many individuals expressed gratification that a Unitarian was present. The sessions of the Congress extended from the 1st to the 4th of October, with three meetings a day, the last one being prolonged well into the night. The addresses were of a high order of excellence and the reports of the commissions were all good, and some were even statesmanlike in their breadth of view. The report which was of the greatest denominational interest to us was that on Federations. The Commission presented a model constitution for local federations, something which the Federal Council has never before attempted. This model constitution states that a local Federation may be composed of the churches in any given community and does not require that they be in fellowship with the Federal Council. It also prescribes that if any local federation decides to undertake some piece of work with which a constituent member is not in sympathy, such church may signify its disinclination to join with the others in the movement, and it will be excused without any prejudice to its good standing as a member of the Federation. This action is significant, because although not yet will the denomination be received into the Federal Council it is made possible for Unitarian churches anywhere to become members of local and state federations. In the West and South it is quite probable that not even now Unitarians will be welcomed in the federations of those sections, but at least the door has been opened.

After the adjournment of the Congress the Secretary visited Youngstown, where he preached for Mr. Bennett, Pittsburg, Indianapolis and Bloomington, where he addressed week night meetings, and Geneseo, where he spoke on a Sunday morning. He finished his trip at Chicago, where he attended the Conference of the National Housing Association, and took part in the discussions.

During the last month the churches have been particularly interested in war work. The Secretary is chairman of the Sub-Committee on Church Activities, and a member of the Boston Committee on Training Camp Activities. It has been his duty to interest the churches of the different denominations in the extension of hospitality to soldiers and sailors in Boston and vicinity. Without attempting to name the Boston Unitarian churches which have been active in this work, it is sufficient to say that nearly all have gone into it enthusiastically. They have given parties for the sailors, at which bountiful suppers have been provided, followed by an entertainment or dancing. Many people have taken soldiers or sailors home to dinner, and acquaintances have been formed in this way which in many cases have ripened into friendship. Although much has been done there remains much to do; and not only in the vicinity of Boston but all over the country whenever Unitarian churches are in a position to entertain men who have been called to the colors, it is clearly their duty to do all that they can to show their interest in the work of our boys and men. The Secretary is in possession of considerable informa-

tion concerning the methods which may be successfully employed in entertaining men in the service, and he would be glad to communicate with any church which wishes for information.

The work at Ayer is progressing rapidly and satisfactorily. The additions to the church and other changes are going forward, and when finished the church building will have been greatly strengthened, and its equipment in every way improved. The Christian Federation of Ayer, which includes all the churches of the town, is developing a most interesting and useful service. In the limited accommodations which the Federation now has, some two hundred soldiers a day are received and made comfortable, and when the new building is finished it is expected that the work will be greatly increased.

**Department of Religious Education**

The materials provided for the observance of the four hundredth anniversary of the Protestant Reformation were extensively used by our churches and schools. Twelve thousand copies of the Service of Praise were sent out on request. There has been a good sale of the Luther Pageant, a little play which will be found useful and worthy of presentation at any time, since it portrays one of the most dramatic incidents in the history of the Protestant church. The demand for the stereopticon slides was far greater than could be met even with the six sets provided. Nearly all the sets were in use every Sunday in October. Some of them served two churches on one Sunday. One set was used three times on October 28, at Medford for the Sunday-school meeting at 9.30, at Somerville at twelve o'clock, and at Barnard Memorial, Boston, at four, being sent from one place to another by special messenger.

*Heroic Lives*, the book in the new Beacon Course for pupils eleven years of age, prepared by Albert R. Vail and Emily McClellan Vail, is now ready for our schools. The book pictures, in a series of biographical stories, the spirit of love and service at work in human hearts everywhere. The pupil is shown that all the great religions contain something of true religion, and that hardship, privation and persecution but increased the heroic quality in the great religious leaders. The biographies begin with modern characters near to the life and interests of the boys and girls. Old Testament characters, Paul and the other apostles, and some of the heroes and martyrs of the early Christian church are given, as well as representatives of modern religious movements in India and Persia, and leaders in the liberal movement in America. The leaders of the world religions are presented, the section culminating in the story of the supreme religious hero, the Founder of Christianity.

The pupil's book contains these stories in attractive form, and the teacher's book has the same material with the addition of teaching suggestions, and sometimes questions for class use, for each lesson. There are note-books for the pupils which will test their knowledge of the lesson taught and awaken thought upon the subjects offered. The teacher's book costs $1.00, pupil's story book, 50 cents, pupil's notebook, 50 cents.

This Department is publishing a new Christmas play for children, *A Christmas Story*, by Edith Lang. It is especially adapted to be given as an introduction to Christmas tree exercises, and will take about half an hour for presentation. Miss Lang has composed both words and music for the songs, and the piano accompaniments are kept simple, so that a young girl might play them. The pamphlet will cost 15 cents. The list of plays for children which this Department issues contains six Christmas plays. Two of these are arrangements of the Bible story, and we have a third, not named on the printed list, which was given by our school in Uxbridge, Mass. The list of plays will be mailed on application.

**Department of Publicity**

The various parts of the plans of the "Wayside Pulpit" are working together smoothly, and the whole enterprise is going forward successfully. The factories that make the different devices are able to get materials and the printers are doing their work promptly. The second lot of printed sheets has been sent to all who have requested them.

Of the first lot there were six, and of the second lot seven. This is a sufficient number to last until the first week of January. The second lot contains appropriate quotations for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year.

The third lot will be prepared by the middle of December and printed ready to send out immediately after Christmas. They will thus avoid being caught in the Christmas mails, but should reach the churches by the first of January. They will therefore be in ample time for use as soon as the present lot has been exhausted.

A number of churches have decided recently to adopt the "Wayside Pulpit" plan. We are still able to supply to any of our churches the printed sheets from the beginning.

A number of churches also have decided to add the "Changeable Letter Device" to the "Wayside Pulpit". These two combined make a very attractive and effective means of publicity. Any Unitarian church which is considering having a new bulletin board in front of the church should examine carefully the "Wayside Pulpit" plan and the "Changeable Letter Device" that goes with it. These devices are well constructed and can be furnished to our churches at a very low price. They also have the advantage over any other kind of bulletin board that they permit the use of the free printed sheets which we furnish.

All inquiries with regard to any part of the "Wayside Pulpit" plan should be addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Publicity, Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson, 25 Beacon Street, Boston. If any church which has requested the printed sheets has not received the second lot, please notify him and he will make another shipment.

*New Books*

**Publication Department**

Since the last issue of WORD AND WORK three new publications have been offered to the public. The teacher's manual, pupil's manual and pupil's notebook of *Heroic Lives* are now ready. *The Little Red Wonder Book* by Lewis Gilbert Wilson and *At Christmas Time* by Charles W. Wendte will be ready when this issue of WORD AND WORK reaches our readers. Both of these books are briefly described in the circular enclosed in this number, and they will make most appropriate and welcome Christmas gifts.

*Roll of Honor*

Many of the Unitarian churches have ordered the *Roll of Honor* and all are immensely pleased with it. We have seen a number of different designs, but consider ours far superior to any other that has yet come to our attention. The sale has not been limited to our denomination or even to religious organizations. One prominent construction company in Boston has placed an order for one hundred. Any church or society that has not procured this attractive poster is advised to do so at once.

*Word and Work*

We have had quite a number of subscription papers returned to us since the last issue, and we hope that those who have not sent in their list will do so at the earliest possible date. The Publication Agent has sent a letter to each subscriber to WORD AND WORK requesting that each person secure an additional subscriber. To date there have been but two hundred responses to this appeal. We feel confident, however, that this number will be considerably increased.

# The Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Miss Lucy Lowell, *President*
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Lucia Clapp Noyes, *Treasurer*
11 St. John St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, *Rec. Sec.*,
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
226 Windermere Ave., Wayne, Pa.

"The common problem, yours, mine, everyone's
Is not to fancy what were fair in life
Provided it could be—but finding first
What may be, then find how to make it fair
Up to our means; a very different thing.

Others shall
Take patience, labor to their heart and hand,
From thy heart and thy hand and thy brave cheer
And God's grace fructify through them all."

Our appeals this winter show the different character of our work and, we believe, our power to adapt ourselves to the conditions which confront us. For many years the Appeals Committee has presented to the branches the annual needs for new church buildings, for church furnishings, and for the repair of old buildings. Under war conditions building has practically stopped. Churches are going on with their work, grateful that their present housing conditions are no worse.

Other grave needs should instead have the help of Alliance generosity. Two years ago when our Endowment Fund was beginning, and when the needs of the Star Island fund were being enthusiastically presented by the lovers of that blessed isle, theYoung People's Religious Union also appealed for its Endowment Fund. Of the three much needed funds, the Young People's alone is incomplete, incomplete at a time when more than ever before we must put the strength of the church behind our young men and women. The Young People's Religious Union has not especially asked our help at this time but the growing field of endeavor which the Young People are trying to cover requires more money. The Appeal for $1,000 for this work appears in another column.

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The News from the Branches are beginning to show decided changes in the special activities noted. Knitting and other forms of Red Cross work are in all the reports. Many of the branches have much lessened the scope of their formal programs, the social cup of tea is fast disappearing. Systematic war activities are everywhere to the fore, and so it must be. With it all comes our great hour, the time to realize that good cheer can remain among us even without the cup that symbolizes it, that we can think high thoughts without the literary program, and that in spite of daily concentration on all the business of war, man is still made in God's image.

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## Executive Board

At the meeting of November 9 there were present Miss Lowell, Mmes. Keyes, Davis, Noyes, Atherton, Donahue,Whitney, Allen, Bacon, Bailey, Blair, Bouvé, Bullock, Edgcomb, Faulk, Hayes, Houghton, Kimball, Sawyer, Stearns, Ware, E. M. Whiting, J. K. Whiting, Whitman, Woodbury, Bryant, Griffin, Perkins Dakin, Pope, and four branch presidents invited in pursuance of a new plan to establish a closer connection between the branches and the Executive Board.

Mrs. Davis reported the Michigan Conference which she attended together with the director, Mrs. Fuller, and visits to the Detroit and Grand Rapids, Michigan, branches.

Miss Lowell has met the past month representatives of many branches at neighborhood meetings at Manchester, N. H., Portland, Me., East Bridgewater, Sharon, and Walpole, Mass.

A President's Contingent Fund has been established, giving the President $100 to use at her discretion for the need of the work.

*In memoriam* have been added the names of Mrs. A. L. Hudson, Quincy, Mass., Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Raymond and Miss Mary Hudson, Lexington, Mass., Mrs. Hersey Brown, Brooklyn, First Church, and Miss Elizabeth W. Twitchell, Keene, N. H.

It was voted to approve and put before the branches an Appeal for $1,000. for the Endowment Fund of the Young People's Religious Union. Branches are asked to secure a hearing for Mr. Springer, the secretary and field agent of the Union, as he visits different parts of the country.

It was voted to commend to the branches, without asking for a specified amount of money, the needs of the Carolina Industrial School and of the churches of Western Canada.

The International Committee called attention to the desire of the British League of Unitarian Women to be of assistance to American nurses and women engaged in other forms of war service as well as to the men who have gone or may go overseas from our Unitarian churches. Will not branches see that such names with their addresses abroad are forwarded to Miss Helen Brooke Herford, Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W. C., England?

The Social Service Committee announced the plan of the New England Associate Alliance in cooperation with the New England Council of Unitarian Churches to employ a community worker, a woman, at Ayer, Mass.

Rev. Henry H. Saunderson spoke of the Wayside Pulpit for announcements or timely paragraphs as an efficient means of propagating our Faith. Inquiries should be addressed to Mr. Saunderson at 25 Beacon Street, Boston.

A new branch is welcomed, Peterboro, N. H. The President is Mrs. George F. Patterson, the Secretary, Mrs. Arthur Spaulding.

A letter of greeting and good wishes was voted to Mrs. Cairns, director for Connecticut, who is ill, and a letter to Mrs. Robert Reid of Montreal, whose daughter has achieved so great results as director of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Great interest was aroused in a letter from Mrs. Voigt written from Southern France asking assistance for little children at Cap d' Antibes, whose fathers are in the war, the mothers being obliged to work in the fields all day, leaving the little ones utterly neglected. A Creche has been opened in a villa given for the purpose by an English woman, Mrs. Wilson, whose two daughters will give most of their time to directing the work and here the children will be cared for during the day and given a good meal. It is felt that this work will particularly appeal to the members of a Junior Alliance, a Sunday School, or other young people's organization, as the past year they befriended orphans of the war. Money may be sent to Mrs. W. L. Voigt, 222 Riverside Drive, New York.

Reports were received from Colorado, Salt Lake City, and the first group of Masaschusetts branches.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON,
*Recording Secretary.*

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## News from the Branches

Mrs. William Bale, director for Western Canada, is again selling the "Lend-a-Hand" cards for Christmas greetings. Last year the response financially and sale of the cards was most gratifying and the War Relief work of our Canadian branches in the west was greatly assisted by the money sent them. This year the need is still greater and it is a most deserving work that our western director has undertaken. It is to be hoped the sales will be good and response generous this year as it was last.

Mrs. E. W. Smith, Colorado director, writes of the Colorado branches:

"The Lloyd Alliance of Salt Lake City spent most of the time during the summer in Red Cross work but soon will begin their regular winter program. They are an earnest body of women and have done a great work in that Mormon city.

Colorado Springs branch has planned to have a series of papers or talks besides the Red Cross work, with the reading by Miss Warren for ten minutes of items of interest to Unitarians.

Unity ChurchAlliance of Unity Church Denver, during the summer did a good deal of sewing for the Red Cross and this fall are continuing the work by knitting various articles needed. They also contribute to the Needle Work Guild and several local charities and are interested in Post Office Mission and Cheerful Letter work and are now organizing a Junior Alliance.

Unity Circle of Fort Collins, is composed of college women who scatter during the summer. It is planning much work for next winter besides the Red Cross work, which every one is interested in, to the exclusion of almost everything else; the president writes.

Unity Circle, Greeley, has been doing a great deal of Red Cross work and now in addition are to resume their regular work.

The Pueblo Alliance was reorganized June 12, 1916. The membership is only fifteen but since organizing has accomplished a great deal. They have held regular and social meetings twice a month, also a home cooked food sale once a month, which netted them quite a sum for their treasury; during the summer they devoted their time to Red Cross work, this winter they propose to continue this work and also resume their social meetings once a month at the homes of their members. In addition to what I have mentioned nearly all the branches contribute liberally to the support of their churches. I do not think any of the branches were able to subscribe to the Liberty Loan but some of their members did so; take it all in all, the Western women have shown themselves as patriotic as their Eastern sisters.

A Fellowship meeting of all the Colorado churches was held at Unity Church, Denver, October 27-28. This opened with a dinner given by the Unity Church Alliance at the church with the out of the city Unitarians as guests. Fifteen delegates, mostly Alliance members from Greeley, together with their minister, also the minister and one Alliance member from Salt Lake City, and five delegates from Fort Collins attended the dinner. After dinner Mr. C. M. Schenk, who together with his wife were delegates to the Montreal Conference gave a full account of the Conference. Short talks were given by Mr. Weil and the officers of the different organizations of Unity Church and by the representatives from the other churches. Delegates were expected from Colorado Springs and Pueblo Sunday morning but contrary to our expectations snow began to fall during the night and continued until the afternoon of Sunday, as they were to come in their automobiles, they were unable to attend. A very unique impressive service was held, the installation of Rev. David Utter, D.D., as Pastor Emeritus, and Rev. Fred Alban Weil as minister of Unity Church. In the evening a platform meeting was held with three ten minute addresses by Rev. John Malick on Fatherhood and God, Rev. Paul M. McReynolds on Character and Salvation, Rev. William Channing Brown on Life and Religion. This closed this very interesting and inspiring Fellowship meeting. In spite of the severe storm and cold, the meetings were all well attended."

The large branch at Concord, Mass., with 228 members is this year raising its funds by the envelope system. At the neighboring Lexington branch the money is raised easily by voluntary contribution. At their all day meetings box luncheons are taking the place of the more elaborate meal formerly served by a committee. Most of the branches in this vicinity have given up the little luxury of afternoon tea at their meetings.

The Winchester, Mass., branch has made one hundred and fifty Christmas cheer bags for the soldiers.

The Billerica, Mass., branch has taken Loyalty for its subject and is now working especially for larger church attendance. The Junior Alliance is helping by trying for two months to have a kindergartern for the tiny children so that their parents can come to church. A committee on conservation is working with the local committee on Public Safety and National Defense.

The Pepperell, Mass., branch will entertain the soldiers from Camp Devens at their sociables and do whatever may come up for the soldiers in making the winter pleasant for them.

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The Monday Conference of Alliance Branches which meets monthly at Headquarters, Boston, has accepted with regret the resignation of its devoted Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Annie L. Witherell. Miss Helen C. McCleary, 3 Auburn Court, Brookline, Mass., has taken her place.

At the Monday Conference to be held in Channing Hall, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, on December 3, Mrs. Edward W. Hayes will preside. Miss Irene Arms will speak on the Y. W. C. A. work with girls. A cordial invitation is extended to all who may be interested.

The New York League held its first meeting of the season at the Church of the Messiah on Friday, November 2.

The President, Mrs. Bishoprick, called the meeting to order, and the announcement of the treasurer that the League has subscribed $1,000 to the Liberty Loan aroused great enthusiasm.

The Religious News Report was given by Mrs. A. Emerson Palmer who described her first impressions of a Unitarian Conference, and Mrs. Charles T. Pierce told of the General Conference at Montreal.

The collection, taken up for Mr. Badger's church at San Antonio, Texas, amounted to $20.32, and the appeal for it was made by Rev. Frank L. Gilmore, our new Field Secretary.

The League's topic for the year is Service and for this meeting Rabbi Sidney F. Goldstein spoke most practically and helpfully on "The Value of Social Service to the Community." Rev. John Haynes Holmes and Rev. Harvey Dee Brown, minister and assistant minister of the church, each added a few words on the same subject.

The meeting ended with a pleasant social hour in which luncheon was served.

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The Fall meeting of the Associate Alliance of Northern California was held in Palo Alto, Mrs. Shrout presiding. The opening devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Franklin of San Josè.

The food pledge was read and the signing of it urged upon all who had not already done so.

A roll call gave seventy-two present, of whom one each were from Canada and Massachusetts, and Rev. Mr. Heeb from the Stockton Church. Branch Alliances were: Alameda 5, Berkeley 8, Oakland 4, Palo Alto 19, San Francisco 13, San Jose 19 and Stockton 2. Sacramento and Santa Cruz gave no response, very much to the regret of the delegates.

Suggestions for work from the various societies took the form of reports of the work being done, the similarity of which should be noted:

Alameda, giving up all other activities and devoting all time and energy to Red Cross work; Berkeley, Red Cross work work altogether, meet at private houses, a contribution at each meeting which is devoted to buying wool for knitting; Oakland, meetings weekly, do nothing but Red Cross work, an average attendance of 15 out of membership of 45, have made 225 garments; Palo Alto, besides Red Cross work there is an individual pledge for philanthropic work for all needy; San Francisco, the usual Red Cross work is supplemented by contributions of books and magazines for soldiers and sailors; San Jose, gives monthly dinners to increase fund for work; Stockton, has a new-comers visiting circle and every alternate Wednesday afternoon the new-comers are invited to meet the older residents.

Mrs. Parker Maddox gave a clear and forceful paper on the "Message of Unitarianism in the Present World Crisis."

A discussion followed on "How Can We Best Present Our Unitarian Message?"

Mrs. Plummer, Alameda: "By being most serviceable to the community we can best present our message. Two things to be considered. 1, Business Management. 2, Personality." Mrs. Morgan, Berkeley: "Unitarianism is for *this* world. We must *have* and *show* more earnestness, more faith in humanity, must emphasize the Brotherhood of Man." Mrs. Russell, Massachusetts: "Let there be a quickening of religious life, entering into the depths of spirit. In times of stress may we be found at our prayers." Mrs. Bretherick, San Francisco: "Assimilation of Eastern and Western Religions will bring a better world religion. A study of Eastern religions will bring a better realization and understanding of Western religions." Mrs. Dutton, San Francisco: "There is so much of the rational now, our work is the keeping alive of the irrational, the *heart* side of life." Mrs. Watkins, San José thought a seeming apathy was due to leaving fear behind; more fear would stimulate greater interest and activity.

The New England Associate Alliance held a successful fall meeting at Keene, N. H., in October. An innovation was the evening session with which the meeting began, at which Rev. William Sullivan spoke upon "The Spiritual Demand of the War Time."

At the two sessions of the next day the subject was "Our Young People." Miss Sarah Whitman, student worker at Smith College, spoke of the methods of carrying on religious work among college girls; Mr. N. J. Springer, field secretary of the Young People's Religious Union discussed the plans of organization; and Mr. Allen French, superintendent of the Sunday school at Concord, Mass., considered ways of Co-operation between the Alliance and the Sunday School. A collection of seventy-five dollars was taken up for the field work of the Young People's Religious Union.

Mrs. Metcalf of Winchester, Mass. presented the solution of her church to the question of how young people can be induced to attend meetings. Their Y. P. R. U. meets as the time and place of the Sunday School and has a remarkable attendance record.

Mrs. Claude U. Gilson reported the meetings of the General Conference at Montreal.

The sum of $268 was raised for the purchase of Liberty Bonds to be the property of the Associate Alliance and the income to be used for the young people.

New officers of Alliance branches are: Brooklyn, N. Y., Flatbush, Recording Secretary, Mrs. Henry B. Maurer, 626 East 35th St., Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. William O. Fletcher, 228 East 19th St.; Samaritan Branch, Recording Secretary, Mrs. George Taylor, 147 Pacific St., Buffalo, N. Y., Secretary, Mrs. Charles S. Little, 12 Cazenovia St., Ann Arbor, Mich., President, Mrs. Conrad George, Sr., 347 South Main St., Secretary, Mrs. Marie O. Burnett, 1322 Hill St.; Waltham, Mass., President, Miss Abby L. Stearns, 486 Main St.; Lowell, Mass., Recording Secretary, Mrs. Jason L. Coffin, 702 Pleasant St.: Melrose, Mass.: President, Mrs. Grace T. Lopans, 49 Clifford St., Hamberg, N. Y.; Secretary, Mrs. Robert N. Cundall, Highland Acres, Blasdell, N. Y.

The subscription price for WORD AND WORK (to Alliance members) is thirty-five cents for a year's subscription, exactly as heretofore. This reduced rate is made by The Alliance in the belief that our large subscription list, which should steadily increase, is a very distinct value to our work.

Branch officers receive their copies free by virtue of their office.

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## Junior Alliance Notes

Many of our young people are interested in helping little French orphans. The Sunday School in Toledo, Ohio, has taken charge of two little brothers. A cut was made from the photograph of these little boys, and each child in the Sunday School was given one with a small box in which to deposit savings.

The Milton, Mass., Sunday school has received the following letter about one of their little orphans: —

"I am writing in behalf of my little niece, to whom you have made your kind gift. She is nine years old, and goes to school. Her father was killed in the war, September 1916, at Verdun, and her mother, who could not endure her great sorrow, died in April, 1917. She has a brother twelve years old, and a little sister seven. I am to have the care of these children, who are now alone in the world. Your gift will be a great help."

Mrs. Weller, a member of this committee, writes from Cannes to ask if the Juniors would like "to make some housewives to be given to soldiers leaving the hospital? Make them of khaki, linen, or something very strong, envelope shape, a little larger than a sheet of note paper; fill with cards of black, khaki and white thread, needles, pins, buttons, scissors, soap, pencils, ruled writing-pads, and big square envelopes." In another letter she writes: —"*Don't* send chewing gum, but socks, handkerchiefs, suspenders; soap and shaving soap, pocket combs, shoe-strings, pocket scissors, and strong thread are all in demand."

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## Appeals

An appeal for $1,000 for the Endowment Fund of the Young People's Religious Union is commended to the branches. All readers of WORD AND WORK realize that our Young People have undertaken a new and enlarged work with the help of a Field Secretary. They face a greatly increased budget at a time when their resources are most sorely taxed. Let us help the Young People.

The Executive Board endorses and commends to the consideration of the Branches, the Churches of Western Canada, which need the support and co-operation of all for the duration of the war. Contributions may be sent to Mr. Courtenay Guild, 144 High St., Boston, Mass.

The Carolina Industrial School is also endorsed by the Board. From this fund are paid the salaries, living and traveling expenses of the teachers at Shelter Neck and Swansboro, N. C., schools. Contributions may be sent to Mr. Hollis T. Gleason, 147 Milk St., Boston, Mass.

EFFIE E. WHITMAN,
*Chairman Committee on Appeals.*

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The Appeal for funds for the Southern Circuit is before the branches this year as usual. The pledges given by the branches for annual subscriptions do not cover the amount of the budget for the salaries of the ministers in the circuits and for the necessary travelling expenses. If more branches would adopt the pledge plan it would greatly help the Directors in arranging the work. Some of the five year pledges which have expired have not been renewed, and the amount needed this year in addition to the unexpired pledges is about $1,000. Do not confuse this Appeal with the Carolina Industrial School. Send pledges and contributions for the Southern Circuit to the Treasurer, Mrs. Noyes. Send contributions for the school to its Treasurer, Mr. Hollis T. Gleason, 147 Milk St., Boston, Mass.

Appeals stand as follows: —

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| San Antonio, Texas | $247 |
| Green Harbor, Mass. | 247 |
| Meadville Students | 212 |
| Pacific School Students | 227 |
| Tuckerman School | 217 |
| Italian Mission | 300 |
| Southern Circuit, in addition to pledges | 1,000 |

# Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters: Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Frederick M. Eliot, *President*

Rev. Nelson J. Springer, *Secretary* Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, *Treasurer*

First of all, we wish to call the attention of all readers to the actual accomplishments of the Y. P. R. U. during the past month. It is a source of pride to us that the national organization is really serving individual societies in widely separated regions in a personal and practically effective way.

During the month of November the field secretary visited the following churches: Needham, Carlisle, Rockland; Keene, N. H., Charlestown, N. H.; Burlington, Vt., Windsor, Vt.; Hyde Park, Mass., Canton, Holyoke, Lancaster, Leominster; Wilton, N. H., Walpole; Pepperell, Northfield.

The service which the field secretary renders on such visits is of a various nature. Ordinarily he is allowed to speak in a comparatively formal way; and he tries to describe definite methods and concrete enterprises which have previously proved successful in the experience of individual young people's societies.

There are additional opportunities, frequently afforded, for personal conferences with the natural leaders of any group, with reference to details which would prove tedious in formal discourse and for conversation with the minister concerning the past experience of young people's organizations in the parish and prospects of the future.

It seems well at this time that those who may be expected to support the work of the Y. P. R. U. to the extent that it meets with their approval, should understand in some measure the nature and scope of the difficulties involved in carrying out the program which the employment of a field secretary has demanded. This is not by way of complaint. It is merely a setting forth of facts that those outside the organization may understand why we do not achieve more, and that they may even come to marvel that we accomplish so much.

In the first place, the work of the organization is not always hospitably received in the churches. Fortunately this condition is limited to restricted areas, but it is nevertheless a condition which the organization is required to consider in any total estimate of its problems.

In the second place, and this is one of the comprehensive problems, there is a vast deal of complacent indifference; and, we may add, complacent failure. Various parishes point with pride to the wreckage of their young people's society. They almost glow with enthusiasm as they recite the out-worn creed: "It can't be done."

In the third place, the multiplicity of tasks in need of accomplishment restrict the thoroughness with which any task may be performed.

The national organization has for the first time employed a field secretary. The first year must bring forth fruit if there is to be a second or a third year. The reason for engaging a field secretary was obviously for the purpose of doing field work. If the field secretary spent three months of the first year in the office laying plans, he would lose all claim to his title. Yet the fact that he must plunge immediately into the field work means that his program is less thoroughly organized than it might be, and, therefore, frankly less serviceable and less satisfactory.

But this is not all. The fact that the field secretary does spend practically all of his time in the field leaves the Boston office vacant. It means that the office itself receives only casual and haphazard attention. It is necessary to face the fact, however, that we are not equal to the task of employing an office secretary at the present time.

Growing experience has convinced the field secretary that there needs to be a greater concentration of effort. Whenever it becomes possible for the secretary to limit his activities for a year to a restricted area, and to do intensive work with a few struggling societies, more that is of real value can be accomplished. But such a method at present would be disastrous to future hopes and would be unfair to the majority of the young people's societies.

Again, were the field secretary to limit his efforts, to New England, or to the Middle States, or to the Middle West, or to any of the other divisions formed by our various conferences, the old hue and cry of provincialism would be raised immediately, and the prospect of continuance would be wiped out. This practical consideration does not, however, go to the root of the matter. It appears that the field secretary is in duty bound to reach the largest possible number of societies covering the widest and most diversified regions during this first year. The national organization itself needs the publicity which such a relatively superficial undertaking will primarily accomplish; but it is equally true that it is the right of each individual society and parish to encounter the field secretary, and to learn at first hand what he is trying to do, and how he proposes to do it.

All of this is in addition to the natural and constant problems of inadequate and uncertain financial resources. The national organization does receive casual contributions which are frequently very generous. In many cases they represent the willingness of a group of young people to limit their local prospects for the sake of perpetuating the national undertaking.

Now these are the problems which are most obvious at the present time. They represent the difficulties which we encounter on every hand. The fact that our young men are called into service, that many of our young ladies are away at school, that the theatres and the motorcars are rival attractions, although they are serious, are really trainsient in character when compared with the problems which have been stated previously.

We do not minimize these latter problems unduly, nor fail to perceive their significance. What we are going to do while our boys are in military service, greater still, what we shall do when they return, is a problem very near to us, one that we do not presume to offer solution for at this time. But it is to be remembered that all of this latter group of problems are such as are *external to the nature and activity of the national organization.* They are problems which would exist if there were no national organization and no local societies. The problems in the first group exist only because there is a national organization, comprised of local societies, and are *essentially internal.* They are problems which must be solved if the Young People's Religious Union is to evolve into an organization which is genuinely serviceable and religiously significant.

We must, by the very nature of the case, acquire a definite income, thus eliminating the precarious character of our present existence, even if that definite income is less than the sum we might obtain by chance or casual gifts. To achieve a substantial and self-supporting organization of some kind is our present and primary problem. It is our faith that we have a program of merit, and that, with the change of circumstance, we shall be equal to the task of revising our methods until they are adapted to each new situation. We also believe that we have found an effective way in which to put that program into operation.

Our method and our purpose are missionary. It is our belief that our efforts must converge in a strengthening of the allegiance of our young people to the Unitarian cause, in a deepening of their religious consciousness, in the elimination of whatever is casual and superficial, in the spiritual aggrandizement of the Unitarian church through the augmentation of its numbers by the retention of its young people and

by the recruiting of other young people in legitimate ways, and through the development of the conscious religious and moral partisanship which allies an individual with well-defined principles of living.

Thus far, our appeal has been to those not members of the Young People's Religious Union. Indeed, what has gone before has been covertly intended for the eyes of the mature constituency of Unitarian churches, members of men's clubs, of the Women's Alliance, ministers, and teachers in our church schools, those who are naturally the guardians and protectors of such an organization as the Young People's Religious Union, those whose hopes for the religious character of future generations would dictate to them the fostering of this organization and the cherishing and advancement of its aims.

But the organization would misrepresent its constituency if it allowed the impression that its own members do not support it to the best of their ability, or that they are not asked to help in various and genuine manners. There are two appeals which the national organization is making through the field secretary, two appeals which must be answered if the national organization is to render the greatest practical service to individual societies.

First, we wish to hear from individual societies in regard to their problems and their difficulties. We ask the privilege of trying to help each individual young people's society in the denomination to overcome its obstacles.

In the second place, we wish to have detailed accounts from every local society of the programs wherein it has met with success, so that we may have such information to disseminate among our societies at large. If the various local organizations will render this service, they will improve the character of the national undertakings.

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At this latest moment, we wish to call final attention to the Biennial Fair of the Y. P. R. U., to be held in the Arlington St. Church vestry on Dec. 7, from ten in the morning until ten at night. Luncheon and supper will be served. A large number of desirable articles have been contributed for sale. Provision has been made for incidental musical numbers which are likely to be exceedingly attractive. Altogether Miss Katherine Williams, the chairman of the fair committee, has guaranteed the success of the fair insofar as it has been possible in advance of the actual date.

It is to be hoped that her efforts, supported by the members of her committee, will be rewarded by the generous patronage of all Unitarians near enough to Boston to come in for the day. The Y. P. R. U., as an increasingly large circle of people are coming to know, is now engaging in a practically effective campaign of service to young people on a nation-wide scale; and it both needs and deserves nation-wide support.

Thanking you in advance for the financial success of the fair, we remain, very truly yours,

THE FAIR COMMITEE.

# Unitarian Temperance Society

Rev. John Haynes Holmes, *President*, New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Frank L. Young, *Vice-President*, Dorchester, Mass.
Rev. Chester A. Drummond, *Secretary*, Somerville, Mass.
Charles H. Stearns, *Treasurer*, Brookline, Mass.
Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge, *Field Secretary*, 303 Brattle Building, Cambridge, Mass.

Will prohibition help or hinder the Government? Do those who urge prohibition delay or assist the Government?

These questions will be answered by a review of history and survey of facts. History informs us that the House of Representatives passed war prohibition by a vote of 134 to 124. This measure however was amended in the Senate to the effect that the manufacture of distilled spirits shall be prohibited during the war, but the sale of spirits now on hand together with the continued manufacture and sale of fermented beverages shall be permitted. Having defeated prohibition as a war measure the Senate proceeded to vote on prohibition as an amendment to the National Constitution, and passed this measure by vote of 65 to 20. The measure now comes before the House of Representatives and will doubtless be voted on before Christmas.

We have therefore these political facts to consider; first, that a majority in the House have favored war prohibition; second, that a majority in the Senate favor submitting national prohibition to the States for ratification; third, that over eighty per cent of our national area is now dry territory, that sixty per cent of our population, the national capital, the army and navy, are under prohibition. The question now rests with the minority as to whether it will permit this convincing majority to clean up our national map. Whether it is patriotic to side with this obvious majority is a question which each will have to answer for himself. Court records show that the influence which hinders this majority from fulfilling its desire is the money power of the liquor interests.

Mr. Walter G. Calderwood, executive secretary of a committee of sixty on national prohibition of which Professor Irving Fisher of Yale is chairman, summarized a number of estimates made by well known economists showing the financial burden of alcohol to our country. He estimates the annual loss as follows: — for food stuffs wasted $136,000,000; (the national liquor dealers association in their anti-prohibition manual for 1916 declare that they pay $200,000,000 annually to the farmer for his raw material which is to be manufactured into alcoholic beverages). Loss of commercial value of 120,000 lives which are lost annually through alcohol $966,720,000; time loss of 589,000 farmers and wage earners $439,000,000 (the national liquor dealers association asserts that the liquor interests employ 1,600,000 wage earners, who at $500 each would earn $800,000,000 annually.) Loss through crime, insanity and disease $93,000,500. (Prof. A. Caswell Ellis of the University of Texas estimates the amount to be $490,000,000). Loss in production of wealth by lowered efficency $2,000,000,000; retail cost of the liquor to the people $2,200,000,000. This totals to $5,835,097,500, accepting Mr. Calderwood's conservative estimate, or a much larger figure if we accept other reliable estimates.

Our representatives in Congress must know how the people stand on this question. Now is the time to give them the moral support necessary for the passage of the Prohibition Bill in December. The citizens of this country are the munition manufacturers who must supply these representatives with definitely expressed public opinion in letters, telegrams, newspaper items, personal interviews and votes.

Now is the time to show that prohibition is the most patriotic issue before the American people. Get in touch with your Representative in Congress now, and do not relax your hold until the note is announced.

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